

AL.1.1316

The Alberta
Metis Settlements
Transition Commission

ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992



ALBERTA
FAMILY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Office of the Minister

Also responsible for Metis Settlements Commission, Native Programs

CANADA

FEV 7 1994

August 3, 1993

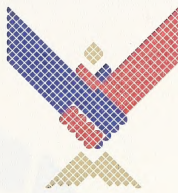
The Honourable Dr. David Carter
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Dear Sir:

It is my honour to submit the 2nd Annual Report of the Alberta Metis Settlements Transition Commission for the period of April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Cardinal
Minister of Family and Social Services



Alberta Metis Settlements
Transition Commission

Office of the Commissioner

July 30, 1993

Honourable Mike Cardinal
Minister of Family and Social Services
Minister Responsible for
Metis Settlements Transition Commission
104 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. Cardinal:

It is my pleasure to present the 2nd Annual Report of the Alberta Metis Settlements Transition Commission for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1992.

Yours truly,

Dennis C. Surrendi
Commissioner

Enclosure

RFR/hz



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
University of Alberta Libraries

<https://archive.org/details/annualreport2119albe>



TABLE OF CONTENTS

History	1
Commissioner's Message	2
General	4
Personnel Services	4
Finance and Administration	5
Land and Membership Registry	6
Intergovernmental Affairs	7
Economic Development	12
Policy and Legislative Services	13
Technical and Human Resource Services	13
Land Use Planning and Resource Management	14
Financial Review	15
Auditors Report on the Metis Settlements Transition Commission	16
Metis Settlements Transition Commission Balance Sheet	17
Metis Settlements Transition Commission Statement	18
Notes to the Transition Commission Financial Statement	19
Auditors Report on the Metis Settlements Transition Fund	20
Metis Settlements Transition Fund Balance Sheet	21
Metis Settlements Transition Fund Statement	22
Notes to the Transition Fund Financial Statement	23
Organization Structure	25

THE ALBERTA METIS SETTLEMENTS TRANSITION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 1991 - MARCH 31, 1992

HISTORY

On July 1, 1989, an agreement between the Province of Alberta and the Metis Settlements resulted in the Alberta Metis Settlements Accord. The Accord outlined the proposed transfer in ownership of 1.23 million acres (500,000 hectares) of land from the Province to the eight Metis Settlements. The Accord also provided for a 17 year financial agreement; the development of autonomous local governments; the co-management of mineral resources; and the establishment of a Transition Commission, headed by a Transition Authority and a Commissioner, to ensure that the provisions of the Accord are carried out over a seven year Transition Period.

On November 1, 1990 the basic principles of the Accord were embodied in the following statutes:

Constitution of Alberta Amendment Act, 1990
Metis Settlements Land Protection Act
Metis Settlements Act
Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act

The Accord financial agreement provides for \$30 million dollars to be distributed annually to the Settlements over the seven year Transition Period. Through the signing of Letters Patent and the Proclamation of the *Constitution of Alberta Amendment Act, 1990* and the *Metis Settlements*

Land Protection Act, the Metis Settlements General Council acquired the fee simple ownership of land within the boundaries of the eight Metis Settlements. This fulfilled a vision for the Metis Settlement members that was initiated over a half century ago.

The *Metis Settlements Act* established a framework for a new form of local government that is unique in Canada. The *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act* established the Metis Settlements Transition Commission which is overseen by a Transition Authority. During 1991/92, members of the Transition Authority included a person appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council (The Honourable Dick Fowler, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Minister Responsible for Native Affairs), a representative appointed by the Metis Settlements General Council (Mr. Ken Noskey, President of the Metis Settlements General Council), and the Commissioner (Mr. Dennis C. Surrendi). The Transition Authority provides advice and guidance to the Commissioner whose duties and responsibilities are outlined in the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act*. The Commissioner was jointly selected by the Government of Alberta and the Metis Settlements General Council to serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Transition Commission.

*This Annual Report is the second of its kind
to be completed for each fiscal year of the seven year Transition Period.*

COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE

During the fiscal year of 1991/92, the process of transition continued to evolve. By mid July 1991, all of the Metis Settlement Councils and the General Council Executive had been elected for the first time under the *Metis Settlements Act*.

The establishment of a legal quorum at General Council in the late summer of 1991 enabled the General Council to commence action on a range of important General Council policy issues and other matters of collective interest to the eight Metis Settlements. The capacity of the General Council to effectively carry out its responsibilities was further enhanced by the addition of some key administrative personnel, including a new Executive Director.

By the late fall of 1991, the Transition Authority commenced regular meetings. Throughout the balance of the 1991/92 fiscal year the Transition Authority focused on the roles and responsibilities of the Transition Commission and the Commissioner, as well as the General Council's expectations of Provincial program support during the seven year Transition Period under the Financial Agreement of the Alberta Metis Settlements Accord.

In November of 1991, it became apparent that there existed some differences of opinion among Settlement members, Settlement Councilors, and among Settlement Councils as to what form the Metis Settlement local governments were to take and what services Metis Settlement local governments were to provide. This prompted the Commissioner to facilitate a process with each Settlement Council that would assist each Settlement to clarify these fundamental issues. By March 1992, all eight Metis Settlements had clarified the functional composition of their respective Metis Settlement local governments and the nature of the services they would provide their members. In all instances, the results of each of these initiatives is consistent with the *Metis Settlements Act* but reflects the unique characteristics of each Settlement.

In preparation for the 1992/93 fiscal year each Settlement Council initiated a process to establish program and service priorities. Although this priority setting process had not been completed by March 31, 1992, the Settlements were well on their way to finalizing their priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. It is worth noting that this represented the first time in the history of the Metis Settlements that each Settlement Council was provided the opportunity to clarify the roles and responsibilities of their respective Metis Settlement governments and, with input from their members, establish priorities for their local governments needs. In all instances, the eight Metis Settlement Councils carried out their responsibilities in an effective and professional manner establishing a solid foundation for future program planning and budgeting.

The Commissioner worked closely with the Metis Settlements in preparing a Commission program/activity structure and organizational adjustments for the 1992/93 fiscal year.

This provided more convenient and focused Commission programming to service each Metis Settlement and the General Council in support of their unique needs. Although this initiative had not been completed by March 31, 1992, the results of this collective effort between the eight Metis Settlements, the General Council, and the Commissioner will be in place in the new fiscal year.

As anticipated during the formulation of the Alberta Metis Settlements Accord and the enabling legislation, areas of misunderstanding or clarification were likely to occur when such a complex agreement was implemented. In order to address basic interpretation matters associated with the Accord, specific review periods were identified in Section 9 of the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act*.

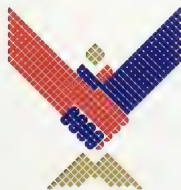
During the latter part of the 1991/92 fiscal year, it became clear that there exists areas of the Financial Agreement under the Accord which the Metis Settlements and the Province may wish to revisit in order to refine their mutual understanding of the intent of the Accord. Because the initial review opportunity under Section 9 of the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act* falls in 1993, the Transition Commission Annual Report for 1992/93 will more specifically identify areas in need of clarification.

In general terms, it became apparent by the latter part of the 1991/92 fiscal year that the Settlements' expectation for Provincial program support during the seven year Transition Period differs in some important specific program areas from that of the Province. However, the overall response of the Provincial departments and agencies is positive in support of the Settlements needs.

A complicating factor faced by the Provincial departments and agencies is their budgetary capacity to address the needs of eight new Metis Settlement local governments in a period of fiscal restraint and downsizing. Although some departments recognized the eligibility of Metis Settlements or Settlement members for Provincial programs or services, these same departments were not in a position to provide these programs or services due to a lack of budgetary resources. This matter is before the Transition Authority for resolution.

The Transition Commission continued to focus on carrying out its mandate within the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act* in assisting the Metis Settlements General Council and respective Settlement Councils to address the requirements of the new legislative framework. As the impact of the new legislation became clearer during 1991/92, the Transition Commission adjusted its priorities and programs accordingly to more accurately reflect Settlement needs and concerns.

Within the context of the above, following is a summary of the specific activities undertaken by the Transition Commission from April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992:



Alberta Metis Settlements
Transition Commission

GENERAL

Provided detailed briefings on the Accord and the new legislation to the Executive Committees of most Provincial departments.

Established an interim 1992/93 General Council Financial Allocation Policy for the Settlements in the absence of a formal policy from the Metis Settlements General Council and at their request.

Initiated the establishment of the Metis Settlements Access Committee required under the Co-Management Agreement between the Metis Settlements and the Minister of Energy as per Schedule 3 of the *Metis Settlements Act*.

Provided conditional grants to the Metis Settlements General Council and the Metis Settlements for the purposes of accessing developmental expertise in: engineering/geological surveys, administrative support, management recruitment, fire guardian training, alcohol and drug abuse counselor instruction and local government legal counsel training.

Pending resolution of the issue of water and sewer plant ownership, interim plant operating costs of \$525,000.00 incurred by the Settlements and the Province were paid by the Transition Commission to ensure each Settlement had access to adequate potable water supplies and sewage treatment facilities.

Conducted or facilitated the delivery of 152 training workshops dealing with various subjects in support of Settlement Councils, Settlement Administration, and Settlement members. Commission personnel also provided a wide range of on-the-job training to all Settlements on an "as requested" basis.

Continued long-term strategic planning process for the dissolution of the Commission by March 31, 1997. This process is ongoing for completion and

presentation to the Transition Authority for approval in the 1992/93 fiscal year.

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Developed and implemented internal Transition Commission personnel policies and procedures.

Initiated a process to develop a Human Resources Management Plan for the Transition Commission. This plan is intended to reflect the dissolution strategy for the Commission.

Finalized Transition Commission access to the Alberta Government on-line payroll system. Ensured that Commission personnel received training on the system.

Established monthly information sessions between the Commissioner and non-management Transition Commission personnel.

Assisted in reviewing the organizational structure of the Transition Commission and provided ongoing consultation to management about the personnel requirements of their respective program areas.

Coordinated the delivery of three cross-cultural awareness workshops and a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation workshop for Transition Commission personnel.

Finalized staffing of management and non-management positions within the Transition Commission.

Actioned the classification review of 28 positions in the Transition Commission.

Facilitated the transfer of personnel support services for the Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal from the Transition Commission to the Department of the Solicitor General.

Assisted in the staffing of the Metis Settlements Access Committee and provided ongoing personnel support services to the Committee.

Provided ongoing consultative serv-

ices to the Settlements on personnel policies and provided direct assistance on the following projects:

Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement

- assisted in the drafting of a Personnel Policies and Procedures document.

Elizabeth Metis Settlement

- assisted in the development of 17 position descriptions.

East Prairie Metis Settlement

- assisted in the development of 12 position descriptions;
- provided advice on draft Personnel Policies and Procedures.

Fishing Lake Metis Settlement

- assisted in the development of 37 position descriptions;
- assisted in the drafting of a Personnel Policies and Procedures document.

Gift Lake Metis Settlement

- initiated and implemented an employee survey project and completed a report to Settlement Council and Administrator on the survey results;
- assisted in the review and revisions of 12 position descriptions.

Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement

- provided advice on the development of a salary grid for Settlement Administration.

Peavine Metis Settlement

- provided input on a draft Personnel Policies and Procedures document.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Managed the financial affairs of the Transition Commission to provide maximum efficiency while maintaining appropriate fiscal controls. Financial reports were distributed on a monthly basis to senior management of the Transition Com-

mission, and monthly and quarterly to Alberta Treasury.

At the request of the Metis Settlements General Council, acted as agent for the Metis Settlements to assess, invoice, and collect levies in lieu of taxes for industrial, electric power and pipeline assessments for 1991.

Managed the 1991/92 Transition Fund and provided detailed monthly reports to the Metis Settlements to confirm the draws to date and the balance of funds held on their behalf in the Transition Fund.

Reviewed and analyzed monthly financial statements submitted by the Metis Settlements and provided feedback to the Settlement Administrators.

Completed the construction of an Activity Tracking System which allows the Transition Commission to track specific activities being performed for Metis Settlements and their members.

Completed the development of a fixed asset tracking system, primarily for use by the Metis Settlement Corporations, but also used by the Transition Commission as required.

Completed the first release of a personnel management system for the Transition Commission to track the organizational structure, positions, and incumbents.

Consolidated the Transition Commission's computer networks into a single network and coordinated the purchase and installation of additional computers and peripherals.

Initiated a major computer review as requested at Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement.

Employed consultants to provide ongoing training and guidance to the Metis Settlements on budgeting and budget by-laws, computerized accounting records and reporting systems.

Provided computer training and support to Metis Settlement personnel and

Transition Commission staff.

Participated in the priority setting process with each Metis Settlement with the results used as the basis for the 1992/93 Metis Settlement and Commission budgets.

Participation by senior staff in Transition Authority activities as secretary and provided other administrative support. Also participated as requested in Metis Settlements General Council discussions.

Initiated discussions and planning with several Metis Settlement Councils on the matching grant program scheduled to commence on April 1, 1997, as outlined in Sections 7 and 8 of the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act*.

LAND AND MEMBERSHIP REGISTRY

The *Metis Settlements Act* allows the Metis Settlements and the Alberta Government to establish a new scheme for managing and securing interests in Metis Settlement lands. The work on this new system involved the following four major undertakings:

1. Assisted in the preparation of the legislation and regulations governing Metis Settlement lands and membership.

2. Established the registers and procedures for the Metis Settlements Land Registry.

3. Recorded and registered new and pre-existing interests in Metis Settlement lands.

4. Informed the Metis Settlements and existing interest holders about the new Metis Settlements Land Registry requirements.

A more detailed description of these four initiatives follows.

1. Legislation and Regulations

Representatives of the Metis Settlements General Council, Attorney General and the Transition Commission jointly contributed toward the preparation of the legislation that governs the management of rights and interests in Metis Settlement land. The following components of this legislation were enacted on November 1, 1991:

The **Metis Settlements Land Registry Regulation** governs the recording and registration of rights and interests.

The **Land Interest Conversion Regulation** governs the conversion of the allocation interests, granted to members under the former *Metis Betterment Act*, to one of the new types of interests.

The **Metis Settlements Subdivision Regulation** controls the subdivision of land.

The **Metis Settlements General Council Land Policy** governs the creation, transfer and cancellation of interests.

The **Registrar's Rules** creates the documents for registering and recording interests.

2. Metis Settlements Land Registry

The Metis Settlements Land Registry was officially established on November 1, 1991 and a Registrar was appointed.

The Registry developed an automated land registry system. The computer program was installed in each Metis Settlement office.

The Registry prepared the following manuals for use by the Metis Settlements:

***Automated Land Registry User
Guide
Land Registry Operations
Manual***

3. Recording And Registering Interests

The Registrar recorded and filed the following pre-existing interests up to March 31, 1992.

Pre-existing allocations - 2,750 interest registers.

Road Plans - 190 deposit file registers linked to 1280 title registers.

Right of Entry Orders - 650 deposit file registers linked to 4000 title registers.

The Registry recorded or registered the following new interests between November 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992:

Metis titles - 8,750

Provisional Metis titles - 13

Allotments - 11

Interim Allocations -60

Metis title transfers -5

Utility Rights of Way -9 linked to 545 title registers

Crown Managed Roads -7 linked to 320 title registers

4. Training & Public Education

The Registry prepared the following information for the use of Metis Settlement members:

Metis Settlements Land Registry Booklet

Metis Settlements Land Registry Pamphlet

Land & Membership Decision Handbook

The Registry held a number of training and information meetings as follows:

Workshops and meetings with individual Metis Settlements' Councils.

Public meetings with Metis Settlement members.

Metis Settlement & Registry staff training workshops.

In addition, the Registry responds to daily telephone inquiries from Metis Settlement Councilors, Settlement staff, and members in relation to Registry matters.

In addition to the preceding, pursuant to the *Transitional Membership Regulation*, the Metis Settlement Membership Final Report was prepared on May 30, 1991 which consisted of 2,875 "confirmed Settlement members" and 119 members with "uncertain status". Of the 119 "uncertain status" members, 11 Claims of Membership were filed with the Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal.

During the period of April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992, there were 246 new memberships approved and added to the Metis Settlement Members List.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Provided assistance to each Metis Settlement Council in order to help address their overall responsibilities and needs with regard to local government.

Commenced a program under which local government experts were assigned to specific Metis Settlements by mutual agreement of the Metis Settlements Council and the Metis Settlements Transition Commission to work exclusively with a Settlement in providing comprehensive guidance and advice in the area of local governance.

Engaged a corporate management consultant to conduct numerous in-depth

workshops/seminars with most Metis Settlements in support of the Settlements' efforts to further develop their skills in local government administration and governance.

Facilitated negotiations with Alberta Agricultural Development Corporation and the Metis Settlements General Council's Agriculture Committee regarding the development of an agricultural loan policy for the Metis Settlements. At the end of the fiscal year, the General Council's Agricultural Committee had the Agricultural Development Corporation proposal under review.

Conducted a series of agricultural workshops on the Metis Settlements regarding Alberta Agriculture services and program delivery to Settlement farmers and ranchers.

Promoted the establishment of Metis Settlement agriculture committees and facilitated an historic agreement between Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement and Improvement District #22 regarding expansion of agricultural services into the Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement.

Facilitated and coordinated the development of business proposals for livestock development on some Metis Settlements.

Provided planning services and financial support for a Northern Native Agriculture Development Conference in Slave Lake attended by Metis Settlement members.

Continued to facilitate access by the Metis Settlements to Alberta Transportation and Utilities surplus equipment in the same manner as other local governments in the Province.

Provided the Metis Settlements with large scale, one-piece photo mosaics of each Settlement from Alberta Transportation and Utilities' Aerial Surveys and Remote Sensing Branch.

Liaised with Alberta Transportation and Utilities Motor Transport Branch engineering and technical staff regarding the status of road bans as related to the Metis Settlement roads and the implications for future road developments on the Metis Settlements.

Requested and received approval for Alberta Transportation and Utilities' yearly Equipment Rental Rate Schedules to be sent directly to each Metis Settlement for reference when renting Settlement equipment. All Metis Settlements are now on the master mailing list for these Schedules from Alberta Transportation and Utilities.

Initiated the addition of the Metis Settlements to the 1992 Alberta Road Map.

Assisted in obtaining additional funds from Alberta Transportation and Utilities for regravelling a number of roads in each Metis Settlement.

Obtained agreement from Alberta Transportation and Utilities to authorize two Metis Settlement members working with the Commission to have office facilities and services in the Lac La Biche and High Prairie District Transportation Offices for the eastern and western Metis Settlements respectively. The objective was to have these positions provide an enhanced level of communication and understanding between the Metis Settlements and Alberta Transportation and Utilities at the regional level.

Provided coordination and background assistance for the necessary procedures related to the registration of provincial roadway interests within the Metis Settlements Land Registry.

Acquired all of the information available for Alberta Transportation and Utilities regarding potential sand and gravel sources within the Metis Settlements.

Investigated Settlements' eligibility under Alberta Transportation and Utilities' Hamlet Streets Assistance Program.

Requested and received approval for Metis Settlement employees and members to participate in the Alberta Transportation and Utilities Bridge Inspector's Course to benefit the Settlements in their future staff training and program requirements.

Assisted the Metis Settlements by assembling relevant transportation and utility information for use in developing policies and by-laws at the Settlement level.

Secured Alberta Transportation and Utilities' agreement to include the eight Metis Settlements in a future needs study initiated by the Department to forecast water and sewer grant requirements for the next five year period.

Arranged for the Metis Settlements to acquire, at no cost, spare surveying equipment and materials no longer required by Alberta Transportation and Utilities.

Continued assistance in the process to resolve the issues between the Peavine Metis Settlement and Alberta Environment regarding a compensation strategy for flooding on that Metis Settlement caused by the Heart River Reservoir.

In support of each Metis Settlement's long-term planning, undertook an on-ground reconnaissance of all Metis Settlements with respect to renewable resources and resource development opportunities.

Several Metis Settlements were advised on natural resources based tourism opportunities. A tourism feasibility study for Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement was initiated.

Coordinated discussions between Alberta Forest Service and the Metis Settlements General Council in relation to development of a Forest Protection Agreement for the Metis Settlements regarding wildfire protection, prevention and education programs.

Forestry, Lands and Wildlife contacts were arranged for the Tri-Settlements (Gift Lake, Peavine and East Prairie Metis Settlements)

with regard to various land use issues.

Provided assistance to the Kikino Metis Settlement in establishing a four-year wildlife habitat enhancement project based on a reforestation and employment program.

Assisted the Tri-Settlements in initiating a feasibility study for a regional landfill site.

Arranged for two Metis Settlement members to attend a practical training session on natural resources management and assisted with training elements.

Reviewed the new Alberta Environment legislation and the proposed Alberta Environment Water Management Policy and Legislation and advised the Metis Settlements General Council office on relevant issues.

Facilitated Alberta Environment interaction with the Metis Settlements General Council and some Metis Settlements and provided advisory services to them in the area of municipal water services and other environmental matters.

Facilitated the interaction of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife staff with the Metis Settlements and provided advisory services to the Settlements in the areas of fisheries management, wildlife management, habitat enhancement, forest protection, forest land use, timber management and other Metis Settlement resource matters.

Provided advice to the Metis Settlements General Council on environmental protection guidelines for incorporation into the Metis Settlements General Council Resource Policy.

To assist the Metis Settlements in their natural resources management plans, reviewed other government legislation and various policy, program and operating guideline issues as they might impact Metis Settlement activities (e.g. Forestry, Lands and Wildlife and Natural Resources

Conservation Board).

As requested by the Metis Settlements, commenced assessment of Metis Settlement needs in respect to fish and wildlife resource enforcement activity.

Commenced assessment of Metis Settlement fish and wildlife priorities and harvest/license compliance as the basis for long-term resource planning by the Metis Settlements, including tourism.

At the request of the Gift Lake Metis Settlement Council, assisted the Settlement in establishing a long-term (1991-93) social development facilitator project to assist the Council with assessment of the Settlement's social/health issues, agency networking, advocacy and concerns regarding single mothers, elderly and handicapped, palliative care, guardianship, workers' compensation, student counseling, special events, general health care needs, community development and training for a Settlement community worker position.

Established contacts and relationships with appropriate Federal and Provincial agencies in support of the Metis Settlements in the areas of alcoholism, drug abuse, day care programs, child care models, women's programs, youth programs, consumer information, disabilities and aboriginal educators.

In support of each Metis Settlement Council, completed a community profile for each Metis Settlement which provides an overview of activities in the areas of recreation, community relations and education.

Established a positive interface between the Metis Settlements and Family and Community Support Services and Northern Alberta Development Council on Metis Settlement social and health matters.

Provided general advice to the Metis Settlements on Provincial programs,

services and conferences available in the areas of family violence, alcohol and drug abuse.

Arranged for Family and Community Support Services workshops for the Metis Settlements and assisted in the preparation of a brief on behalf of the Metis Settlements to the Family and Community Support Services Ministerial Review Board.

Assisted the Tri-Settlements (i.e. Peavine, Gift Lake and East Prairie) in the preparation of their application to Family and Community Support Services.

Arranged for Metis Settlement participation at the Premier's Conference on Alberta Families and participated in aboriginal consultation forums to provide feedback on the Conference.

Continued liaison between the Metis Settlements and Alberta Occupational Health and Safety officials.

Continued arranging Workplace Health and Safety workshops for Settlements as required.

Advised Metis Settlements on safety program applications for contractors used by Municipal Districts and Improvement Districts.

Occupational Health and Safety manuals for small businesses were distributed to the Metis Settlements.

Provided information on workers' compensation to all Metis Settlements.

Arranged for attendance of Metis Settlement utility officers at the Hydrants and Water Main Seminar sponsored by the Western Canada Water and Wastewater Association.

Arranged for Metis Settlements' eligibility for funding under the Career Development and Employment Skills Program.

Assisted Gulf Canada with contact person list for all Metis Settlements in case of gas leak emergencies.

Assisted the Pathways to Success Committee in the provision of informa-

tional workshops for the Metis Settlements and a presentation to the Metis Settlements General Council.

Provided the Metis Settlements with information on the *Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act* (replacing the *Manpower Development Act*).

Provided the Metis Settlements with fire protection analysis guidelines and information.

At the request of the Metis Settlements, developed and arranged for an information workshop on establishing local fire departments for all Settlements.

In support of the Metis Settlements, developed a model fire department by-law for the Settlements.

Arranged for 22 Metis Settlement members to be trained in structural fire fighting at High Prairie and St. Paul, and obtained information regarding training for Settlement volunteers.

Initiated and proceeded with all arrangements for a major grant application for funding to acquire water/fire trucks for all eight Metis Settlements (value of grant - \$480,000) from the Northern Alberta Development Council.

Established liaison between the Metis Settlements and the regional fire advisor from Alberta Labour.

Arranged for an informational fire protection workshop/seminar for the Tri-Settlements by the Fire Prevention Branch of Alberta Labour.

Provided the Metis Settlements' contact person list to the Fire Prevention Branch.

Facilitated liaison with Alberta Public Safety Programs and Services on all Metis Settlements as requested.

Conducted Settlement informational workshops on Alberta Public Safety programs and provided assistance as requested.

Conducted Disaster Services informational workshops on all Metis Settlements.

Reviewed and made recommendations on public safety matters on Metis Settlements as requested.

Obtained and distributed information on Disaster Services' rescue courses to all Metis Settlements.

Assisted the Metis Settlements with disaster assistance applications as requested (e.g. Buffalo Lake and Kikino).

Provided information on the *Libraries Act* and Regulations to all Settlements.

Engaged a consultant for liaison between Alberta Education and Advanced Education to identify issues for the Metis Settlements in the area of education.

At the request of the Metis Settlements, undertook a systematic assessment of education opportunities and potential for enhancement of these opportunities on each Metis Settlement.

At the request of the Metis Settlements, completed and distributed an "Educational Directory for Metis Students".

In response to Metis Settlement requests, liaised with Alberta Education and Advanced Education departments and institutions such as Alberta Vocational College, and the University of Alberta regarding educational issues and resources for Metis Settlement students.

Assisted the Metis Settlements in the compilation and distribution of information relating to Metis student funding sources, such as Native educational services, Native educational institutions, the Student Ambassador program and other special programs for Native students.

Provided advice to the Metis Settlements on educational funding concerns, student exchange possibilities, and equity grant funding issues with the Northland School Division.

At the request of some Metis Settlements, explored inclusion of Settlement students in the proposed Canada World Youth Indigenous Exchange program.

At the request of the Metis Settlements, continued to work with Alberta Public Works Supply and Services to secure access by the Settlements to government surplus equipment in the same manner as other local governments.

Assisted Metis Settlement Councils, Settlement staff members, Settlement organizations and residents in accessing Federal, Provincial and other agency funding programs.

In support of government grant access efforts by the Metis Settlements, conducted grant workshops for all Settlements at High Prairie and St. Paul to help familiarize the Settlement Councils and Settlement staff members with grant acquisition processes in the areas of housing, transportation, agriculture, recreation, economic development, health and social development.

Assisted Metis Settlement Councils, as required, in the preparation of funding option proposals for various Settlement and joint venture development projects.

Assisted East Prairie, Fishing Lake, Paddle Prairie and Peavine Metis Settlements in the preparation of grant proposals for submission to Alberta Transportation and Utilities and the Northern Alberta Development Council for the funding of natural gas distribution systems. The grants generated by these proposals totaled \$2,286,000.00 for these four Settlements.

With the support of the Metis Settlements, assigned a Settlement member employed by the Commission to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police headquarters to familiarize that organization with the political, social and economic structures of Metis Settlements and other Metis organizations, including development of Settlement community profiles.

Arranged for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Native Summer Student Program to include the Metis Settlements.

Coordinated and participated in meetings between the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Chief Superintendent, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Director of Law Enforcement and Metis Settlement Councils.

Assisted the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Metis Settlements with the establishment of appropriate community law enforcement, preventive enforcement programs and community advisory groups.

Assisted with recruitment of by-law enforcement staff for Metis Settlements as requested.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

At the request of the Metis Settlements General Council, an Economic Development unit was established and assigned to the Intergovernmental Affairs Section in November, 1991. Emphasis was on development and planning of individual and community-based Metis Settlement business projects.

Assisted Metis Settlement members, Settlement Councils and Settlement organizations as requested regarding economic development issues, including development strategies and business models.

With the support of the Metis Settlements, assisted in the development of an apprenticeship training program.

Developed and used, as required, a generic model business plan for the development of individual business proposals by Metis Settlement members as well as a project cost plan and bulk buying business plan to address housing costs on the Metis Settlements.

Established contacts with appropriate staff in Federal and Provincial government departments and agencies to assist and support economic and business development within the Metis Settlements (e.g.

Agriculture, Economic Development and Trade, Tourism, Forest Industry Development Division, Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Program, Tourism Investment Service, etc.).

In cooperation with Economic Development and Trade, initiated development of a local committee approach relating to the transfer of economic development skills to Settlement councils, Settlement staff and members.

With the support of the Metis Settlements, developed a training curriculum for Settlement-based economic development officers.

At the request of the Metis Settlements, established a Settlement interface with the new Aboriginal Business Network Coordinator program of Alberta Economic Development and Trade.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Developed and presented workshops to Metis Settlement staff and Councilors introducing participants to the preparation of by-laws.

Developed the Metis Settlement By-law Development Guide and distributed it to all of the Settlements.

Prepared a summary of "Justice on Trial - Report of the Task Force on the Criminal Justice System and its Impact on the Indians and Metis People of Alberta" and distributed it to the Metis Settlements and the Metis Settlements General Council to assist them in responding to the report.

Initiated a process involving the Metis Settlements General Council and 29 departments and agencies of the Province in the review of Provincial legislation to identify amendments necessary to implement the Accord as required under Section 21 of the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act*.

Developed a paper titled "Informational Document - New Legislation: Alberta Metis Settlements" for external distribution as a means of informing interested parties of the Metis Settlements Accord and the Metis Settlements legislation.

In support of the Metis Settlements General Council, completed a preliminary draft of a possible Metis Settlement Industrial Taxation Regulation.

At the request of the Metis Settlements, conducted a workshop for Metis Settlement Returning Officers based on the Metis Settlement Election Guide previously prepared by the Transition Commission in order to assist the Settlements with their elections under the *Metis Settlements Act*.

Provided Transition Commission input into the General Council Policy development process through the Technical Drafting Team.

Developed a by-law consultation process approved by the Minister Responsible for the *Metis Settlements Act* and the Metis Settlements to satisfy the requirements of the *Metis Settlements Act*.

Implemented a tracking system for Metis Settlement by-laws and policies.

Developed model by-laws and policies as a reference source for the Metis Settlements.

Assisted the Metis Settlements in the development of policies and by-laws on a wide variety of local government matters.

TECHNICAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Focused a capital projects team on assisting the Metis Settlements in housing construction programs, bid preparation, advising on construction and operating costs, estimating and other aspects of project planning relating to capital projects such as communiplexes, seniors' lodges



and recreational facilities.

Facilitated and funded independent engineering assessments of the Metis Settlements' water/waste water systems and roads.

Facilitated the establishment of the Technical Housing Committee (adopted by the Metis Settlements General Council as a standing Committee) to deal with common Metis Settlement housing issues, provide training forecasts and arrange appropriate trades training programs for all eight Settlements.

Provided expertise to the Metis Settlements General Council through a Capital Projects Advisor with broad construction industry experience to assist the General Council Housing Committee on various initiatives such as bulk buying of building materials, housing component manufacturing by the Metis Settlements, and Settlement-built house packages.

Assisted the Metis Settlements General Council Housing Committee and each Metis Settlement in developing a house construction scheduling process and introduced a construction cost accounting computer program for better cost control of Settlement house construction budgets.

At the request of the Metis Settlements, facilitated the provision of construction consultants (i.e. housing inspectors) to provide site inspections to accommodate the significant increase in housing starts in 1991. This initiative assisted in establishing the Alberta Building Code as the minimum standard for Settlement housing construction. The inspectors also coordinated delivery of the Building Inspector I training course for all Settlements.

The Transition Commission provided two Municipal Service Officers in order to assist the Province in keeping Metis Settlement water treatment plants operating and maintained. These Officers also pursued

training opportunities for the Settlement plant operators.

Assisted with the formation of the Alberta Vocational College Western Metis Settlement Advisory Committee for implementation of programs which more effectively satisfy Metis Settlement training needs.

Conducted a training needs assessment with the Metis Settlements to help identify existing Settlement member skills and training priorities to meet their local government administration responsibilities.

Assisted two Metis Settlements (Buffalo Lake and Paddle Prairie) in developing terms of operation for the Mobile Industrial Training Centres provided by Alberta Career Development and Employment. These projects involved funding assistance from that Department and the Northern Alberta Development Council totaling \$1,660,000.00.


LAND USE PLANNING AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Assisted the Metis Settlements in developing land use plans and related by-laws and procedures. This assistance is ongoing.

In cooperation with Metis Settlement Councils, facilitated interaction between the Metis Settlements, Regional Planning Commissions, adjacent municipalities and various government departments.

Assisted the Metis Settlements in developing and administering land and resource-related contracts and agreements as well as developing land capability and resource inventory databases for the Settlements.

In support of the Metis Settlements planning needs, developed the Settlement mapping systems to reflect Settlement plans, ownership status and resources.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

Two sets of financial statements are presented in the Appendix. The first set presents the financial operation of the Metis Settlements Transition Commission. These statements describe the cost of operating the Commission office for the year ending March 31, 1992.

The second set of financial statements reflects the financial operation of the Metis Settlements Transition Fund. These statements describe the disbursements of funds from the Transition Fund in accordance with section 25(2) of the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act*. Commission staff managed disbursements by forwarding funds to the Settlements in accordance with approved 1991/92 budgets.

More detail is provided in the notes to each set of financial statements.



ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Metis Settlements Transition Commission

I have audited the balance sheet of the Metis Settlements Transition Commission as at March 31, 1992 and the statement of revenue, expenditure and unexpended funds for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at March 31, 1992 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the disclosed basis of accounting as described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

Donald D. Salmon
FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
July 10, 1992

METIS SETTLEMENTS TRANSITION COMMISSION BALANCE SHEET

As at March 31, 1992

	1992	1991
A S S E T S		
Current:		
Cash	\$ 522,962	\$ 1,551,658
Accounts receivable	32,704	51,163
Due from the General Revenue Fund	-	21,511
	<hr/> 555,666	<hr/> 1,624,332
Capital assets	584,087	371,678
	<hr/> \$ 1,139,753	<hr/> \$ 1,996,010
	<hr/>	<hr/>

LIABILITIES AND UNEXPENDED FUNDS

Accounts payable	\$ 525,487	\$ 1,619,462
Equity in capital assets	584,087	371,678
Unexpended funds	30,179	4,870
	<hr/> \$ 1,139,753	<hr/> \$ 1,996,010
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The accompanying notes are part of these financial statements

METIS SETTLEMENTS TRANSITION COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND UNEXPENDED FUNDS

For the year ended March 31, 1992

	1992	November 1, 1990 to March 31, 1991
Revenue:		
Contributions from the General Revenue Fund, Province of Alberta	\$ 5,858,148	\$ 2,805,080
Interest	59,835	4,870
	\$ 5,917,983	\$ 2,809,950
Expenditure:		
Contracted services	2,556,394	1,159,882
Manpower	2,007,072	695,149
Grants	565,025	189,000
Capital assets	212,409	371,678
Travel	194,440	105,444
Office	177,446	60,707
Materials and supplies	99,799	71,921
Water and sewage - Settlements	80,089	151,299
	5,892,674	2,805,080
Excess of revenue over expenditure	25,309	4,870
Unexpended funds at beginning of period	4,870	-
Unexpended funds at end of period	\$ 30,179	\$ 4,870

**METIS SETTLEMENTS
TRANSITION COMMISSION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

MARCH 31, 1992

Note 1 Authority

The Alberta Metis Settlements Transition Commission operates under the authority of the Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act, Chapter M-14.5, Statutes of Alberta 1990, which was proclaimed on November 1, 1990.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies

a) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles except that the cost of capital assets is expensed in the year of acquisition. Capital assets are also shown on the balance sheet at cost with a corresponding credit to equity in capital assets.

b) A statement of changes in financial position has not been provided as disclosure in these financial statements is considered to be adequate.

Note 3 Commitments

As at March 31, 1992, the Commission had commitments totaling \$23,542 in respect of grants approved but not disbursed because certain conditions were still to be met by the settlements.

Note 4 Administrative Expenses

Accommodation and other overhead expenses incurred in the administration of the Commission are borne by the General Revenue Fund and are not reflected in these financial statements.

Note 5 Approval of Financial Statements

These financial statements were approved by management.



ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Metis Settlements Transition Commission

I have audited the balance sheet of the Metis Settlements Transition Fund as at March 31, 1992 and the statement of revenue, expenditure and fund balances for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Transition Fund's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Transition Fund as at March 31, 1992 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the disclosed basis of accounting as described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

Donald D. Salmon

FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
May 13, 1992

METIS SETTLEMENTS TRANSITION FUND BALANCE SHEET

As at March 31, 1992

	1992	1991
A S S E T S		
Current:		
Cash (Note 3)	\$ 9,427,402	\$ 3,641,806
Accounts receivable	24,505	943,843
	9,451,807	4,585,649
Due from General Revenue Fund, Province of Alberta (Note 4)	125,000,000	150,000,000
	\$ 134,451,807	\$ 154,585,649

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Accounts payable	\$ 519	\$ 425,989
Deferred revenue	125,000,000	150,000,000
Fund Balance (Note 5)	9,451,288	4,159,660
	\$ 134,451,807	\$ 154,585,649

The accompanying notes are part of these financial statements

METIS SETTLEMENTS TRANSITION FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND FUND BALANCES

For the year ended March 31, 1992

	1 9 9 2			Nov. 1, 1990 to Mar. 31, 1991
	General	Restricted	Total	Total
Revenue:				
Contributions from the General Revenue Fund, Province of Alberta	\$ 25,000,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 15,166,334
Interest	1,596,339	78,511	1,674,850	368,635
	<u>26,596,339</u>	<u>78,511</u>	<u>26,674,850</u>	<u>15,534,969</u>
Expenditure:				
Transfers to Settlements	19,892,621	490,601	20,383,222	11,191,439
Contribution to Metis Settlements General Council	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	1,080,000
	<u>20,892,621</u>	<u>490,601</u>	<u>21,383,222</u>	<u>12,271,439</u>
Excess of revenue over expenditure	5,703,718	(412,090)	5,291,628	3,263,530
Fund balances at beginning of year	3,246,543	913,117	4,159,660	-
Transfer from Metis Settlement Associations Grants Administration Fund	-	-	-	896,130
Fund balances at end of year (Note 5)	<u>\$ 8,950,261</u>	<u>\$ 501,027</u>	<u>\$ 9,451,228</u>	<u>\$ 4,159,660</u>

METIS SETTLEMENTS TRANSITION FUND NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 1992

Note 1 Authority

The Metis Settlements Transition Fund operates under the authority of the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act*, Chapter M-14.5, Statutes of Alberta 1990. which was proclaimed on November 1, 1990.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

a) General

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles except that:

- i. Annual payments to the Transition Fund from the General Revenue Fund are recognized as revenue when received, and
- ii. The amount due from the General Revenue Fund is recorded at the total of future annual installments as authorized by the *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act*. This amount is reported as due from the General Revenue Fund with an offsetting credit to deferred revenue.

b) Other significant accounting policies and reporting practices are as follows:

Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Transition Fund are grouped into the general fund and the restricted fund.

General Fund

The general fund consists of payments received from the General Revenue Fund to be used for capital development projects in settlement areas and for operations and maintenance purposes in settlement areas.

Restricted Fund

The restricted fund consists of money received from the Metis Settlement Associations Grants Administration Fund. Section 263 of the *Metis Settlements Act* requires that money deposited into the Transition Fund must be held and paid on the same terms and conditions and for the same purposes as the money was held in the Metis Settlement Associations Grants Administration Fund.

General Fund Expenditure

Transfers to settlements for capital and operating purposes are recorded when authorized by a settlement budget by-law and approved by the Metis Settlements Transition Commissioner.

Changes in Financial Position

A statement of changes in financial position is not provided as disclosure in these financial statements is considered to be adequate.

Note 3 Cash

Cash consists of deposits in the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund of the Province of Alberta. The Metis Settlements Transition Fund earns interest on the daily cash balance at the average rate of interest earned by the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund.

Note 4 Amount Due from the General Revenue Fund

The amount due from the General Revenue Fund of \$125,000,000 is payable in annual installments of \$25,000,00 each April 1 until 1996. Of each installment, \$15,000,000 is designated for capital development projects in settlement areas and \$10,000,000 is designated for operations and maintenance purpose in settlement areas.

The annual allocation to individual settlements is determined by Metis Settlements General Council policy. The *Metis Settlements Accord Implementation Act* provides that the Minister and The General Council must review in 1993 and 1996 whether the funds provided meet the needs of the settlements and their members.

The amount due from the General Revenue Fund excludes annual installments of \$5,000,000 payable each April 1 until 1996 from the General Revenue Fund to Part 2 of the Consolidated Fund held and administered by the Metis Settlements General Council.

Note 5 Fund Balances **Fund balances are allocated as follows:**

	1992	1991
General Fund - to Settlements:		
Paddle Prairie	\$ 2,675,918	\$ 283,359
Gift Lake	2,438,732	250,762
East Prairie	1,420,683	175,179
Fishing Lake	1,331,574	178,690
Buffalo Lake	449,557	389,449
Peavine	395,958	1,007,378
Kikino	208,675	340,271
Elizabeth	29,164	621,405
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8,950,261	3,246,543
Resticted Fund:		
Water and Sewer projects	501,027	913,117
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Fund Balances	\$ 9,451,288	\$ 4,159,660

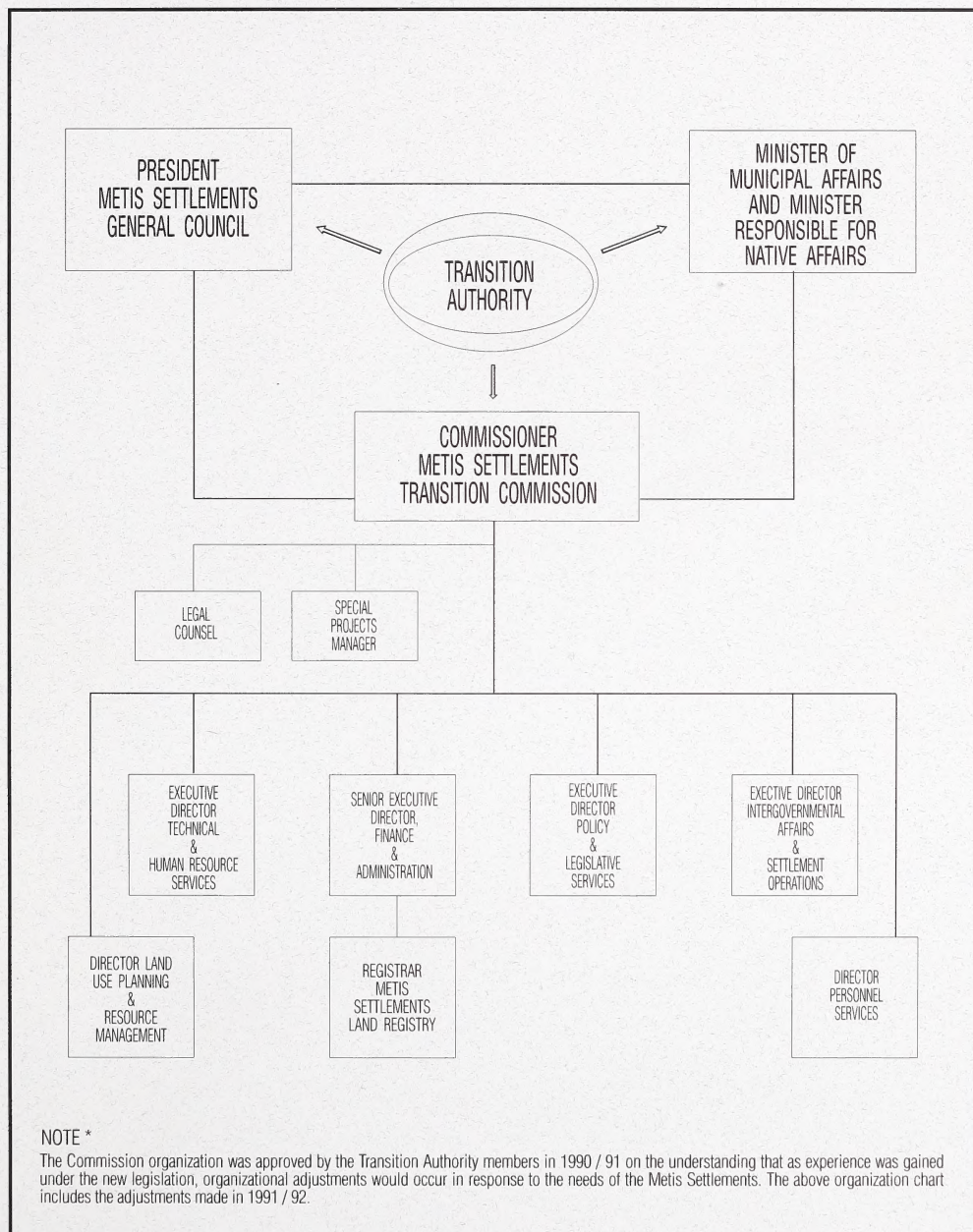
Note 6 Administrative Expenses

Accommodation and other overhead expenses incurred in the administration of the Metis Settlements Transition Fund are borne by the General Revenue Fund and are not reflected in these financial statements.

Note 7 Approval of Financial Statements

These financial statements were approved by management.

METIS SETTLEMENTS TRANSITION COMMISSION 1991 - 1992



National Library of Canada
Bibliothèque nationale du Canada



3 3286 50449 7708

